



DIOCESAN SOCIAL PROFILE

Based on the 2021 Australian Census

Diocese of Bunbury



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Report prepared by:	National Centre for Pastoral Research Australian Catholic Bishops Conference GPO Box 368 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia
Telephone:	+61 (02) 6201 9812
Email:	ncpr@catholic.org.au
Web:	www.ncpr.catholic.org.au

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AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

July 2023

Dear readers,

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is pleased to make available to you this profile of the Catholic population of your diocese.

I hope that you will find it to be a valuable tool for your diocese's pastoral planning by helping you understand the local Catholic community and assess its needs. Diocesan pastoral councils and diocesan agencies in particular will find it a useful resource.

The data in this profile has been sourced from the Australian Census, which is carried out every five years by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Most of the data comes from the 2021 Census, but some comparisons are provided with 2016 and earlier years.

It is important to remember that most of the data in this profile applies to all those people living within the boundaries of your diocese who identified themselves as Catholic in the Census. Census data informs us about a population's demographic characteristics, but not about their religious practice.

This social profile, produced for every Catholic parish and diocese in Australia, is an outcome of the National Catholic Census Project established by the Bishops Conference at the time of the 1991 Census. This project is managed by the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research. The Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research is most grateful to the Centre's staff for the work that they do in providing demographic resources for parishes and dioceses, including this social profile.

This profile is provided to you free of charge by the Bishops Conference as part of its commitment to the support of parish and diocesan life. I trust that you find it informative, useful and thought-provoking.

Yours sincerely,

(Professor) Gabrielle McMullen AM

Chair, Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

Diocesan Social Profile

At a Glance (pages 2 and 3)

Provides a brief glance at some key demographic indicators for the diocese.

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Diocesan Overview (pages 4-7)

Provides a clear overview of the Catholic community of the diocese, how it is changing and how it compares to other dioceses.

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Diocesan Details (pages 9-25)

Provides much more detail about the Catholics of the diocese, allowing for deeper analysis of the nature of the Catholic community.

Detailed Topics

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The Diocesan Community

Pastoral planning is the process of a Catholic community organising itself to carry out the mission of the Church in its own locality. It is a process built upon a diocese's knowledge in three areas:

- Knowing its vision—its aspiration for itself.
- Knowing what sort of people make up the Catholic community and the general community.
- Knowing the resources (strengths, gifts and circumstances) available to the diocese to realise the vision.

This Diocesan Social Profile has been developed as a resource for pastoral planning, and it focuses on the second two of these three areas of knowledge.

The Church strongly encourages pastoral planning. As Pope John Paul II said:

"I earnestly exhort the Pastors of the particular Churches, with the help of all sectors of God's People, confidently to plan the stages of the journey ahead, harmonising the choices of each diocesan community with those of neighbouring Churches and of the universal Church ... It is not a matter of inventing a 'new program'. The program already exists: it is the plan found in the Gospel and in the living Tradition."

Novo Millennio Ineunte #29

By giving a clear picture of the diocese's demographic reality, this profile helps the diocesan leaders name its strengths and shortcomings and better understand how it might use the resources it has to pursue the mission of the Church.

A SNAPSHOT OF THE DIOCESE (2021)

Total Population: 388,460

Catholic Population: 56,960

Catholics make up 14.7 per cent of the total population

Median age of Catholics is 48 years

Total Catholic families: 24,754

6,041 Catholics live alone

13,698 Catholics were born overseas

449 Catholics do not speak English well

3,454 Catholics need assistance with core activities

19,684 Catholics have changed address since 2016



What has changed in the diocesan community since 1996?

This chart will help you identify, at a glance, changes in some of the key indicators for Catholics in the diocese between 1996 and 2021 and may alert you to possible trends that are occurring. The 2016 and 2021 figures are drawn from the Diocesan Overview tables on pages 4-7. All figures in this table refer to Catholics only. The term 'Catholic' in this report refers to all persons who identified themselves as Catholics in the Census, not only those who have some form of active association with the Church.

RANDOMISATION OF CENSUS DATA

The Catholic population of the diocese may be slightly different in different tables in this profile as a result of the randomisation procedure used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in carrying out its statutory obligation to protect the confidentiality of individuals. This variation in figures does not impair the value of Census data as the Census is intended to be an instrument that paints a broad picture rather than a precise measurement of a particular locality. Care should always be taken in interpreting small counts in tables.

	Diocese in 1996	Diocese in 2001	Diocese in 2006	Diocese in 2011	Diocese in 2016	Diocese in 2021 ¹
Catholic population	45,658	50,176	53,640	63,112	64,296	56,960
Catholics aged 0-14 (%)	26.3	24.1	21.2	21.7	20.3	16.9
Catholics aged 65+ (%)	10.5	11.8	14.0	14.6	18.0	24.3
Catholics born in NESC ² (%)	10.4	9.4	9.3	10.5	11.8	14.1
Catholics not proficient in English (%)	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8
Catholic families	17,895	20,436	22,289	25,816	26,602	24,754
Catholics living alone	3,197	4,229	4,642	5,526	5,763	6,041
Catholic students attending Catholic schools (%)	43.0	44.7	49.0	51.8	50.2	52.5
Catholics with university degree (%)	6.2	7.7	9.2	10.9	13.0	15.8
Catholic males in labour force (%)	73.7	60.7	68.9	69.3	68.1	65.0
Catholic females in labour force (%)	53.1	48.8	52.9	55.6	58.0	57.3
Catholic households owning or purchasing dwelling (%)	70.6	71.2	72.9	71.3	74.7	78.2

Notes:

1. Prior to 2021, persons living on Australian Defence Force bases were excluded from the Diocesan Social Profiles figures, but rather were counted within the Military Ordinariate of Australia figures. For 2021, such persons have been included in the geographical diocese in which the military base is located. The overall result of inclusion in 2021 figures is negligible.
2. NESC = Non-English-Speaking Country.



Overview

Table 1: Population (for more detail on Population and Religion see page 9).

The Diocesan Profile begins by looking at the total population living within the diocesan boundaries, and the percentage who identified as Catholic. The rest of the figures in this overview refer only to these Catholics, except where otherwise indicated.

How has the make-up of the diocesan population changed over the last five years? Of the changes identified here, which do you think have been the most significant for the life of the diocese?

Table 1: Population ¹	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank ²	Diocese 2016 Rank ²
Total population ³	388,460	363,104	25,422,788	23,401,892	17	17
Catholic population	56,960	64,296	5,075,910	5,291,834	21	20
Per cent Catholic	14.7	17.7	20.0	22.6	26	26
At same address since previous Census (%)	60.0	53.0	59.4	57.3	11	22
Median age ⁴ (years)	48	42	43	40	4	6
Aged 0-14 (%)	16.9	20.3	17.9	19.8	23	15
Aged 65+ (%)	24.3	18.0	19.9	16.6	4	9
Males per 100 females	86.5	90.4	89.1	90.6	25	22

Table 2: Disability (for more detail on Disability and Carers see page 12).

Table 2 shows the percentage of Catholics who are disabled to the extent that they require assistance for some core activities (i.e. they need help or assistance with self-care, communication or mobility). It also shows the percentage of Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person with some form of disability.

In what particular ways does the diocese support disabled persons and their carers?

Table 2: Disability	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Need assistance with core activities (%)	6.1	4.8	6.7	5.8	23	24
Provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability ⁵ (% of Catholics aged 15+)	12.9	11.3	13.5	12.5	19	24

Notes:

1. All figures in this report refer to Catholics only, except for Total Population and certain other clearly indicated figures.
2. A diocesan rank of 1 indicates that the diocese had the highest score of any diocese, while the diocese with the lowest score had a diocesan rank of 28.
3. The population figures for the diocese and Australia do not include overseas visitors.
4. Median age: Half the Catholic population of the diocese (or Australia) are above this age, half are below it. A diocesan rank of 1 signifies that the diocese has the highest median age of all dioceses.
5. The Census asked whether a person had provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability in the two weeks prior to the Census.



Overview

Table 3: Employment (for more detail on Occupation and Employment see pages 23-25).

The extent to which people are involved in the labour force, and the type of work they are doing, influences and shapes many aspects of the community's life.

How might the changes in the employment status of Catholics over the last five years have affected the diocese?

Table 3: Employment	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Managers and Professionals ¹ (% of those recording an occupation)	29.4	27.5	37.1	34.1	26	25
Workers in 'blue collar' occupations ² (% of those recording an occupation)	38.7	39.8	28.1	29.6	3	3
Men, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	65.0	68.1	66.5	69.7	19	16
Women, employed or seeking work ³ (%)	57.3	58.0	59.7	60.6	22	23
Unemployed at time of Census ⁴ (%)	3.9	6.6	4.2	5.8	15	6
Youth unemployed at time of Census ⁵ (%)	7.8	13.1	8.9	12.2	17	8

Table 4: Birthplace and Language (for more detail on Birthplace and Language see pages 17-19).

This table begins to explore the ethnic balance of the diocese's Catholic community, which may highlight greater needs related to communication and inclusiveness.

Is there a need for the diocese to review the way it addresses the needs of recently arrived Catholic migrants? How does the cultural mix of the diocese compare to that of the rest of Australia?

Table 4: Birthplace, Indigenous Status & Language	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Born overseas in English-speaking country ⁶	10.0	9.5	5.5	5.6	2	2
Born overseas in non-English-speaking country (%)	14.1	11.8	21.4	19.1	13	14
Immigrants from non-English-speaking countries & arriving in Census year or previous 3 years	775	1,142	97,457	106,428	19	13
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	1,230	1,267	135,686	133,528	26	26
Speak language other than English at home (%)	11.6	10.3	21.5	20.4	15	15
Not proficient in English ^{7, 8} (%)	0.8	0.7	2.7	2.6	18	18

Notes:

1. This group includes, for example, farmers and farm managers, sales, marketing and production managers, education and health service managers, retail managers, school principals and school teachers, medical practitioners, nurses, scientists, arts and media professionals, accountants, engineers and IT professionals.
2. This group includes, for example, toolmakers, technicians, electricians, carpenters, plumbers, bakers and chefs, veterinary nurses, hairdressers, machinery operators, drivers, cleaners and labourers.
3. The percentage of Catholics aged 15+ who are in the labour force (i.e. employed or seeking employment).
4. The percentage of Catholics aged 15+ who are in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.
5. The percentage of Catholics aged 15-24 who are in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.
6. New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, United States, Canada and South Africa.
7. Percentage of all Catholics who reported that they spoke English not well, or not at all.
8. The figures and rankings for some dioceses were slightly incorrect in the 2016 Social Profile and have been amended in this 2021 Social Profile.



Overview

Table 5: Education (for more detail on Education and Qualifications see pages 20-22).

Catholic schools are a very important part of every diocese in Australia. This table is primarily devoted to the educational levels of all Catholics, the participation of young Catholics and to the percentage of non-Catholics in Catholic schools.

What are the implications for the diocese, if any, of changes in the percentage of Catholics with a university degree?

Has there been any change in the percentage of young Catholics continuing their education in the post-compulsory years?

What challenges for the diocese are associated with the percentage of Catholic students attending Catholic schools? And what challenges are associated with the percentage of non-Catholics among students at Catholic schools?

In relation to the topics covered in this table, how does this diocese compare with other dioceses in Australia?

Table 5: Education ¹	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Catholics aged 15+ with bachelor degree or higher qualification (%)	15.8	13.0	24.6	20.6	22	25
Catholics attending an educational institution (% of all Catholics in each age group)						
Aged 15-17	93.8	91.2	94.9	92.2	11	14
Aged 18-19	46.4	39.3	67.2	62.9	20	22
Aged 20-24	25.4	18.7	43.4	38.2	23	22
Catholic primary students attending Catholic schools (%)	56.0	52.1	55.5	53.1	11	15
Catholic primary students attending Government schools (%)	37.6	41.7	38.4	41.0	19	16
Catholic secondary students attending Catholic schools (%)	48.8	47.5	55.3	54.5	19	19
Catholic secondary students attending Government schools (%)	40.2	42.6	33.4	35.1	12	12
Primary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ¹ (%)	47.2	32.6	36.6	28.1	5	14
Secondary students attending Catholic schools who are not Catholic ¹ (%)	49.8	34.9	41.3	35.7	8	17

Notes:

1. 'Students ... who are not Catholic' includes a small proportion whose religion was not stated in the Census. Some of these may be Catholic.



Overview

Table 6, 7 & 8: Marital Status, Families & Households (for more detail see pages 13-16).

In 2021, 84 per cent of Australia's Catholics lived in a family setting, with a further ten per cent living alone. The most common type of Catholic family was a couple family with children (44 per cent of all families where at least one person was a Catholic), followed by couple families without children (38%) and one-parent families (parent Catholic, 11%).

Have you observed changes to marriage and family life in recent years? Do you think these changes are common to Australia as a whole, or are they particularly prevalent in this diocese?

What programs and strategies does the diocese have in place to support families with children? One-parent families? Catholics living alone? Catholics who are separated or divorced?

Table 6: Marital Status of Catholics aged 15+

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Never married (%)	26.3	28.7	32.9	33.3	28	28
Married (%)	54.2	53.9	49.3	49.7	1	1
Divorced or Separated (%)	13.1	11.9	11.7	11.2	6	7
Widowed (%)	6.4	5.5	6.1	5.8	12	19

Table 7: Families¹
in which at least one person is Catholic

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Families	24,754	26,619	1,995,658	1,997,833	19	18
One-parent families	2,214	2,546	225,180	231,370	22	21
One-parent families (% of all families)	8.9	9.6	11.3	11.6	28	28
Couples of mixed religions ² (%)	66.2	63.0	58.1	55.9	6	5
De facto couples (%)	17.4	17.8	17.7	17.7	23	16
Median annual family income ³ (\$)	105,746	91,715	120,943	100,270	18	14

Table 8: Households⁴
in which at least one person is Catholic

	Diocese 2021	Diocese 2016	Australia 2021	Australia 2016	Diocese 2021 Rank	Diocese 2016 Rank
Households	31,664	33,354	2,567,362	2,548,354	19	18
Persons living alone (aged under 35)	502	646	51,145	53,499	22	21
Persons living alone (aged 35+)	5,539	5,117	442,080	407,684	19	20
Persons living alone (total)	6,041	5,763	493,225	461,183	21	22
Persons living alone (% of all persons)	10.6	9.0	9.7	8.7	9	15
Dwellings owned or being purchased (%)	78.2	74.7	73.0	71.2	2	5
Median monthly housing loan repayment ⁵ (\$)	1,752	1,821	1,948	1,873	14	12

Notes:

1. A family is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Family members who live elsewhere are not included in the Census definition.
2. Married or de facto couples where only one partner is Catholic as a percentage of all couples where at least one partner is Catholic.
3. Fifty per cent of families have a higher income, 50 per cent a lower income. Family income is the sum of the incomes of all family members aged 15 and over.
4. A household can consist of one or more families, non-family groups or persons living alone.
5. Fifty per cent of households with a housing loan pay a higher repayment, 50 per cent a lower figure.



Diocesan Details

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Religious Affiliation

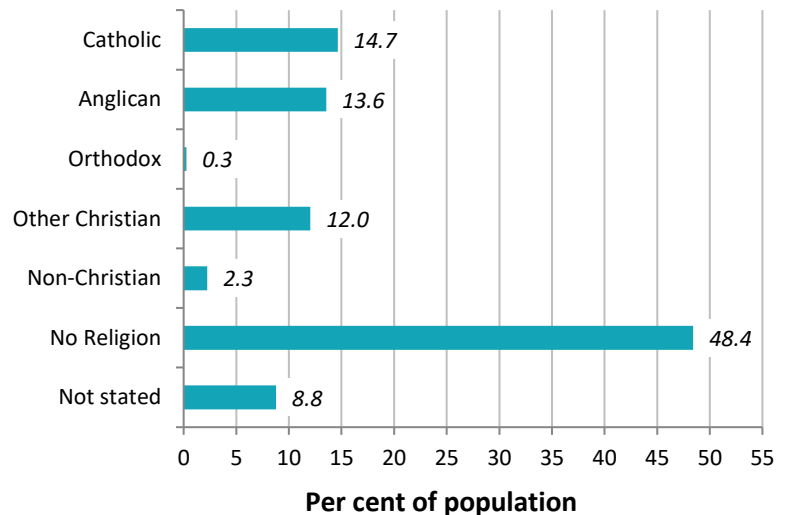
The Census question about religion is optional, and just over seven per cent of people across Australia chose not to answer it. Note that the question is about religious identification rather than religious practice or belief. For the 2016 Census, the ABS moved the 'No Religion' response category to be the first response category in the religion question, where it remained in 2021. Prior to 2016, it was the last response category.

How does the number of Catholics in the 0-9 age group compare with the number of children baptised in the diocese in the period 2012-2021?

What are the largest non-Catholic religious groups? What involvement does the diocese have in ecumenical and interfaith activities and programs?

What challenges to the diocese are associated with the increase in the number of people who report that they have no religion?

**Religious Affiliation
(All persons)**



Notes: No Religion also includes Secular Beliefs and Other Spiritual Beliefs, and No Religious Affiliation.
Not Stated also includes Inadequately Described.

Table 9: Religious affiliation by age

	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+	Total
Western (Latin Rite) Catholic	5,517	7,494	4,010	5,936	7,198	8,565	8,498	6,415	3,310	56,943
Maronite Catholic	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	7
Melkite Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukrainian Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Chaldean Catholic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syro-Malabar Catholic	7	4	-	8	4	-	-	-	-	23
Total Catholic	5,527	7,498	4,010	5,948	7,202	8,565	8,498	6,418	3,310	56,976
Per cent Catholic (of total population in age group)	12.2	15.5	11.1	13.3	15.1	16.3	16.1	15.9	16.3	14.7
Anglican	1,952	3,281	1,756	2,398	4,975	8,642	11,267	11,699	6,670	52,640
Orthodox	92	92	52	120	145	148	181	120	70	1,020
Other Christian	4,430	5,069	3,073	4,191	5,302	6,372	7,694	6,914	3,734	46,779
Non-Christian	1,078	840	990	1,751	1,507	1,178	860	448	113	8,765
No Religion	28,765	27,728	22,872	26,029	24,047	22,898	20,239	11,455	4,101	188,134
Not Stated	3,413	3,794	3,457	4,429	4,616	4,760	4,124	3,334	2,251	34,178
Total Population	45,257	48,302	36,210	44,866	47,794	52,563	52,863	40,388	20,249	388,492

Note: Since the 1996 Census, following consultation with the Eastern Catholic Bishops, Eastern Catholics have been counted separately from Western (or Latin Rite) Catholics. Catholics belonging to the Chaldean, Maronite, Melkite, Syro-Malabar or Ukrainian Catholic Churches have been requested by their Bishops NOT to tick the box marked 'Catholic' on the Census form, but rather to write, for example, 'Maronite Catholic' in the space provided. Those Eastern Catholics who were unaware of this request and who ticked the 'Catholic' box are counted as Western Catholics.



Age and Sex

**Table 10:
Age by sex**

	Males 2021	Females 2021	Total 2021	Total 2016
Age (years)				
0	166	156	322	584
1	205	167	372	701
2	204	231	435	706
3	245	243	488	767
4	281	266	547	826
5	322	287	609	824
6	310	313	623	973
7	346	342	688	945
8	355	345	700	944
9	374	381	755	1,016
10	391	352	743	966
11	440	419	859	978
12	425	391	816	994
13	410	426	836	910
14	439	401	840	940
15	398	378	776	965
16	388	398	786	958
17	338	414	752	884
18	315	279	594	785
19	252	244	496	588
20-24	974	1,041	2,015	2,741
25-29	867	1,129	1,996	3,020
30-34	1,124	1,540	2,664	3,697
35-39	1,424	1,853	3,277	3,831
40-44	1,475	1,883	3,358	4,271
45-49	1,707	2,146	3,853	4,694
50-54	1,943	2,250	4,193	4,720
55-59	1,981	2,390	4,371	4,406
60-64	2,022	2,345	4,367	4,076
65-69	1,869	2,262	4,131	3,940
70-74	1,777	2,027	3,804	2,828
75-79	1,242	1,370	2,612	2,206
80+	1,414	1,891	3,305	2,598
Total	26,423	30,560	56,983	64,282

The table on this page shows the number of Catholics in the diocese in 2021, by age and sex, and compares the total number of Catholics in each age group with those in 2016.

In 1996, the median age of Catholics in Australia was 33 years; by 2021, this had risen to 43 years.

Several factors can influence the age profile, including fertility rates in the past and mortality rates, but in many parishes and dioceses the key factor is migration, related either to people moving to other parts of the country or to people arriving from other parishes or dioceses, or from overseas.

It is important to keep an eye on how the diocesan age profile changes over time, as different age groups have different needs and require different pastoral responses.

In this diocese, which age group has the largest Catholic population?

Which age groups have seen the greatest changes since 2016?

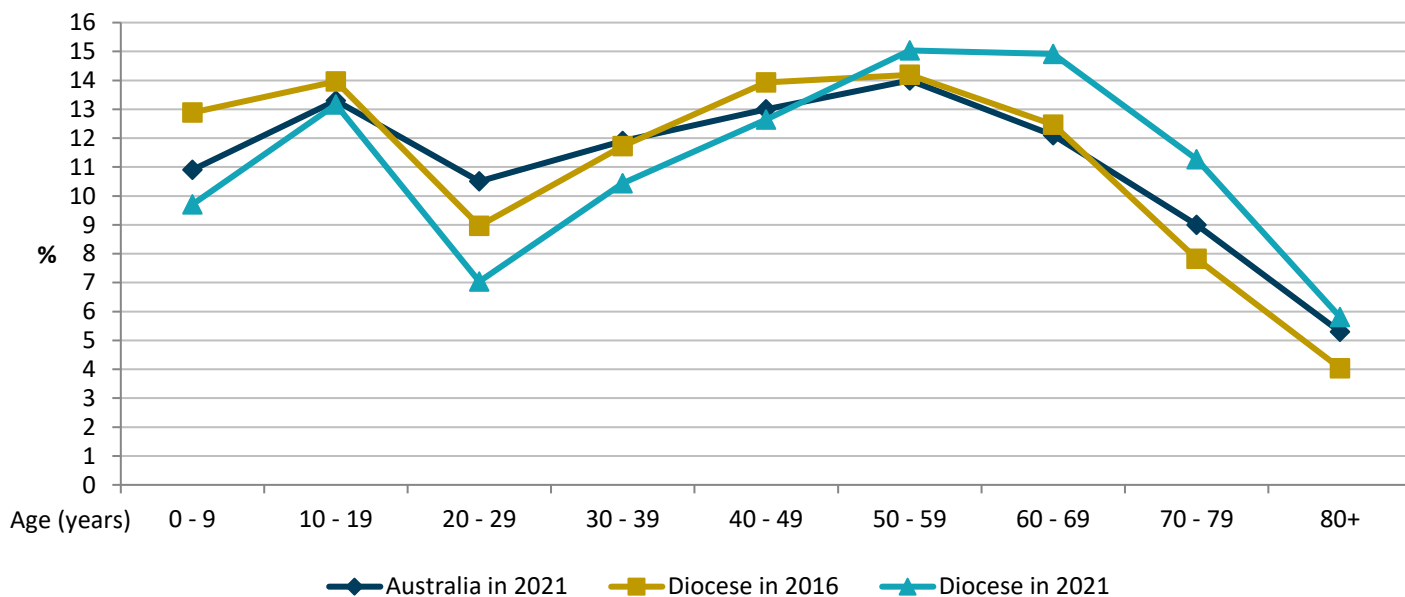
Does this data suggest any new challenges for the diocese?

Note: The Catholic population of the diocese may be slightly different in different tables in this profile as a result of the randomisation procedure used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in carrying out its statutory obligation to protect the confidentiality of individuals. This variation in figures does not impair the value of Census data as the Census is intended to be an instrument that paints a broad picture rather than a precise measurement of a particular locality. Care should always be taken in interpreting small counts in tables.

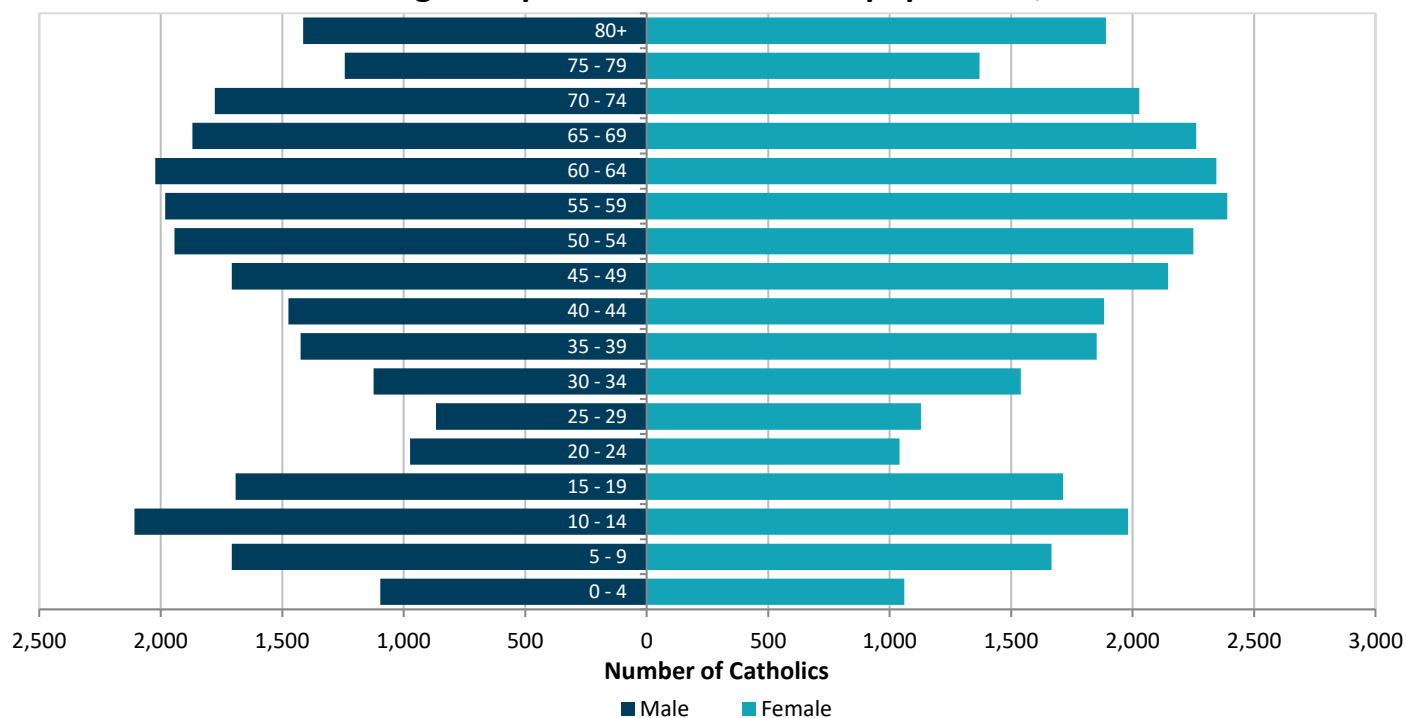


Age and Sex

Age profile of the Catholic population, 2016 & 2021



Age-sex profile of the Catholic population, 2021



Disability

The 2006 Census was the first to include the variable Core Activity Need for Assistance. The variable was developed to measure the number of people with a profound or severe disability. ABS defines the profound or severe disability population as: “those people needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication, because of a long-term health condition (lasting six months or more), a disability (lasting six months or more), or old age”.¹ Most people who need assistance with core activities live either in a family or in a place such as a nursing home, where the care they need is provided. But many live alone. Often people with a disability have fewer opportunities for social interaction.²

How does the diocese support people who need assistance with core activities? How well are Catholic schools in the diocese equipped to meet the needs of students with a disability?

How does the diocese support and encourage Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to people with a disability?

Table 11a: Need for assistance with core activities by age

	0-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over	Total
Catholics who have need for assistance with core activities							
Family members:							
Males	200	170	157	223	243	117	1,110
Females	99	153	186	213	237	128	1,016
Lone Persons:							
Males	-	20	57	35	55	52	219
Females	-	14	62	60	130	160	426
Other non-family members or persons not present in a household on Census night³							
Males	9	19	34	46	65	79	252
Females	4	15	52	54	96	210	431
Total							
Males	209	209	248	304	363	248	1,581
Females	103	182	300	327	463	498	1,873

Table 11b: Provision of unpaid assistance by age

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics who provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability⁴							
Males	109	117	273	408	549	698	2,154
Females	166	257	570	845	1,065	1,026	3,929

Notes:

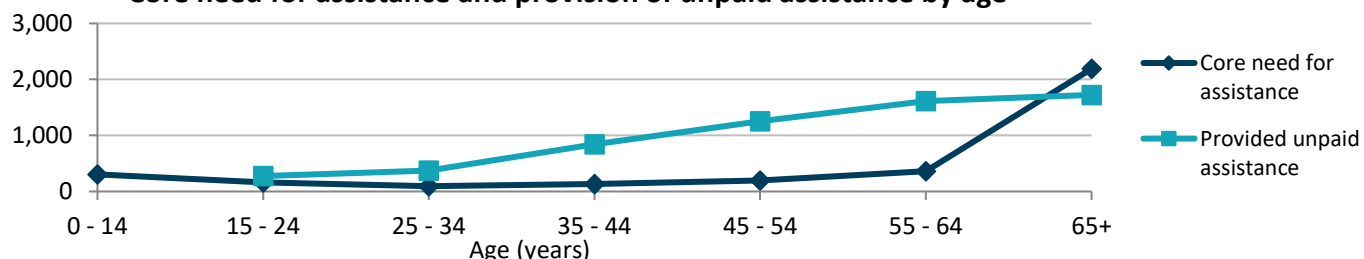
1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006. *Census Dictionary Australia 2006*. Catalogue No. 2901.0.

2. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. *Australian Social Trends 2004*. Catalogue No. 4102.0.

3. Among people aged 75 and over, being in hospital or a nursing home is a major reason for not being in a household on Census night.

4. The Census question asked whether the respondent had provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability in the two weeks prior to the Census. The question is not applicable to persons aged 0-14.

Core need for assistance and provision of unpaid assistance by age



Marital Status

The marital status patterns of Australian Catholics have changed noticeably over the last two decades. At the time of the 1991 Census, 31 per cent of Australian Catholics aged 15 and over had never been married, 55 per cent were married, seven per cent were separated or divorced and six per cent were widowed. By the 2021 Census, these figures were respectively 33 per cent, 49 per cent, 12 per cent and six per cent. Since 1991, there has been a decline in the percentage of married Catholics and a rise in the percentage of those never married and those separated and divorced.

How might changes in marital status patterns affect the life of the Church in this diocese? Do they result in the need for new pastoral services and programs?

The graph below shows, for each marital status, the percentage of Catholic men and women aged 15 years and older who lived in the diocese at the time of the 2021 Census and who had changed address in the previous five years. Across Australia in 2021, 35 per cent of Catholics aged 15 and over had changed address since the previous Census.

Table 12: Registered marital status by sex and age

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15 and over								
Males								
Never married	2,651	1,287	834	721	491	237	107	6,328
Married	10	639	1,802	2,343	2,622	2,597	1,861	11,874
Divorced or Separated	8	63	250	561	829	649	297	2,657
Widowed	4	8	7	20	60	162	388	649
Total	2,673	1,997	2,893	3,645	4,002	3,645	2,653	21,508
Females								
Never married	2,720	1,327	812	666	396	122	68	6,111
Married	29	1,187	2,426	2,804	3,105	2,822	1,397	13,770
Divorced or Separated	-	145	455	842	1,005	761	346	3,554
Widowed	-	7	39	78	230	578	1,459	2,391
Total	2,749	2,666	3,732	4,390	4,736	4,283	3,270	25,826

Change of address since 2016 by marital status
(Catholics aged 15+)

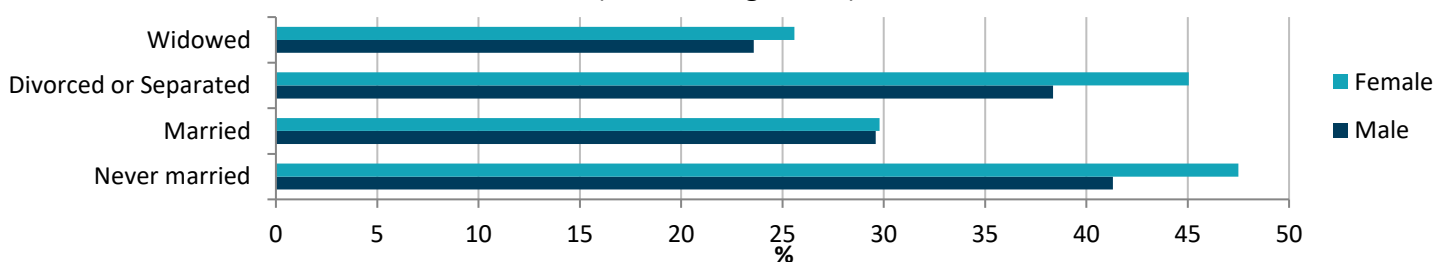


Table 13: Religious affiliation of couple by social marital status

	In a registered marriage	In a de facto marriage	Total couples	% couples in de facto marriages
Both persons Catholic	5,294	667	5,961	11.2
One person Catholic, the other non-Catholic Christian	6,296	997	7,293	13.7
One Catholic, the other non-Christian, not stated or temporarily absent	6,110	2,053	8,163	25.2
Total	17,700	3,717	21,417	17.4



Families

The table on this page shows family composition by weekly family income, with the median weekly family income for each type of family shown in the last column. Couple families are divided into three categories: both partners Catholic, Catholics with non-Catholic Christian partners, and Catholics with partners identifying with other religious traditions or none. The table includes partners in registered and de facto marriages.

Couples without children include those who have never had children as well as those whose children no longer live at home.

What is the proportion of 'mixed marriages' among couple families in this diocese? It is likely to be higher now than previously. How does this alter the pastoral needs of families, and how does it affect diocesan services, including Catholic education?

Is this a particularly difficult time, financially, for families in the diocese? What assistance is the diocese able to give struggling families? Note that the income of one-parent families is likely to be much lower than that of two-parent families. What support services can the diocese offer one-parent families?

Table 14: Family composition ¹ by weekly family income	Less than \$500	\$500 - 799	\$800 - \$1,249	\$1,250 - \$1,999	\$2,000 - \$2,999	\$3,000 - \$3,999	\$4,000 or more	Income not fully stated	Total families	Median Family Income ² (\$)
Two-parent families with children at home:										
Both parents Catholic	19	42	105	500	846	568	469	253	2,802	2,719
One parent Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	38	35	127	331	675	473	531	267	2,477	2,850
One parent Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	38	44	163	541	1,043	755	679	261	3,524	2,810
Couples with no children living at home:										
Both partners Catholic	261	545	551	630	536	279	264	102	3,168	1,459
One partner Catholic, the other Christian, but not Catholic	358	826	955	949	854	385	363	116	4,806	1,412
One partner Catholic, the other Non-Christian, No Religion or Not stated	208	346	467	699	847	395	320	86	3,368	1,915
One-parent families:										
Parent is Catholic	204	350	524	488	294	72	52	230	2,214	1,176
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	68	88	182	208	217	132	141	88	1,124	1,899
Other: Reference person Catholic but spouse temporarily absent ³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,271	1,271	-
Total	1,194	2,276	3,074	4,346	5,312	3,059	2,819	2,674	24,754	2,028

Notes:

1. A family is defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household. Family members who live elsewhere are not included in the Census definition. For Census purposes, a Catholic family is defined as a family in which at least one person is Catholic.
2. Median weekly family income: 50 per cent of families have a higher income, 50 per cent a lower income. Family income is the sum of the incomes of all family members aged 15 and over.
3. The religious affiliation of a temporarily absent spouse is not recorded, hence families in this category could belong to any one of the first six categories above.



Families

Table 15: Weekly family income by number of dependent children

	0 dependent children	1 dependent child	2 dependent children	3 dependent children	4 or more dependent children	Total
Less than \$500	921	133	104	26	8	1,192
\$500-\$799	1,817	214	155	56	18	2,260
\$800-\$1,249	2,350	319	265	87	53	3,074
\$1,250-\$1,999	2,817	606	595	242	87	4,347
\$2,000-\$2,999	2,831	831	1,091	461	95	5,309
\$3,000-\$3,999	1,442	522	781	258	53	3,056
\$4,000 or more	1,411	453	628	267	65	2,824
Income not fully stated	1,345	493	520	259	52	2,669
Total Families	14,934	3,571	4,139	1,656	431	24,731
Median Family Income (\$)	1,704	2,321	2,632	2,623	2,247	2,028

Note: Table population is Catholic families. Dependent children include all children aged 0-14 and dependent students aged 15-24. Some figures may differ from figures in other similar tables (i.e. Table 14) due to the randomisation process used by the ABS – see note at the bottom of page 10.

**Weekly Family Income
(Catholic families)**

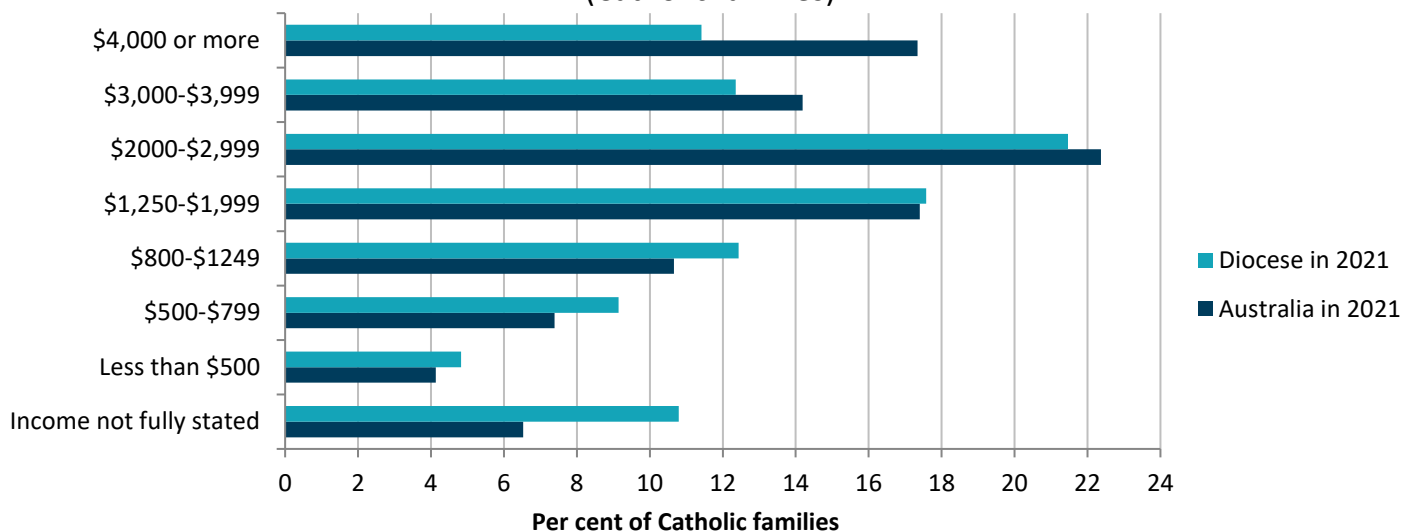


Table 16: Social marital status by number of dependent children

	0 dependent children	1 dependent child	2 dependent children	3 dependent children	4 or more dependent children	Total
Family Composition:						
Married couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	11,331	2,039	2,877	1,170	277	17,694
De facto couple family (at least one partner Catholic)	2,315	602	509	225	75	3,726
One parent family, parent Catholic	833	659	482	175	64	2,213
Other families where at least one person is Catholic	441	263	269	115	36	1,124
Total families	14,920	3,563	4,137	1,685	452	24,757



Households

The Australian Bureau of Statistics defines a household as one or more persons, at least one of whom is at least 15 years of age, usually resident in the same private dwelling.¹ Non-private dwellings such as motels, guest houses, prisons, religious institutions and nursing homes are not included in household statistics. A household can consist of one or more families, non-family groups or persons living alone.

The figures on this page refer to households in which at least one person is Catholic.²

There were 9,808,428 households in Australia in 2021. At least one Catholic person lived in 2,567,352 households, or 26 per cent of all households. Seventy-seven per cent of these Catholic households were family households and, of the Catholic family households, 77 per cent were occupied dwellings that were owned or being purchased.

What is the current housing situation in this diocese? For example, is there a sufficient stock of rental properties available? Are there areas with large numbers of new houses? Are families under stress to pay rent or meet mortgage repayments? What aspects of the diocese's pastoral strategies relate to housing issues?

Table 17: Household composition by tenure type	Fully owned or being purchased	Rented from State or Territory Housing	Rented from other landlord, or landlord not stated	Other households	Total households	Per cent owned or being purchased
Family households	20,288	290	3,715	553	24,846	81.7
Lone person aged under 35 years	250	16	204	32	502	49.8
Lone person aged 35 years or over	3,813	298	1,129	299	5,539	68.8
Group households	425	19	302	31	777	54.7
Total households	24,776	623	5,350	915	31,664	78.2

Table 18: Household composition by monthly housing loan repayment	\$1-\$599	\$600-\$999	\$1,000-1,599	\$1,600-\$2,199	\$2,200-\$2,799	\$2,800 or more	Median monthly household loan payment
Family households	546	808	2,649	3,272	1,306	1,509	1,791
Lone person aged under 35 years	-	21	69	54	13	13	1,556
Lone person aged 35 years or over	120	152	281	184	62	72	1,349
Group households	11	30	64	53	7	14	1,454
Total households	677	1,011	3,063	3,563	1,388	1,608	1,752

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. *Census Dictionary Australia 2016. Catalogue No. 2901.0.*
2. For Census purposes, a Catholic household is any household in which at least one person is Catholic.



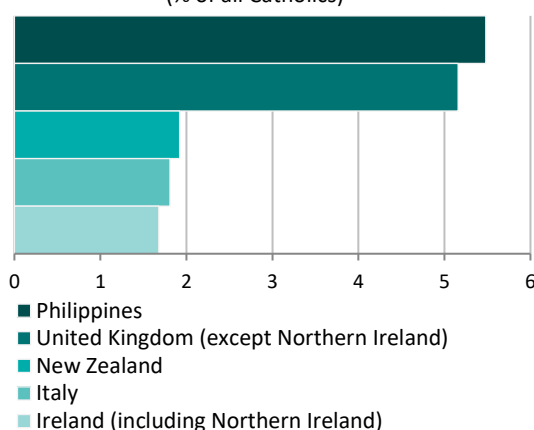
Birthplace

Catholics born overseas, especially those born in non-English-speaking countries, are likely to have different approaches to faith and spirituality, and different experiences and expectations of Church life from those of Catholics born in Australia.

How does the diocese support Catholics born in non-English-speaking countries in matters such as chaplaincy, education, pastoral care, and so on?

Is there a need for the diocese to review the way it addresses the needs of Catholics who have arrived in Australia in recent years?

Top 5 birthplaces of Catholics born overseas
(% of all Catholics)



Top 5 birthplaces with highest proportions of recent arrivals
(% of all Catholics from that birthplace)

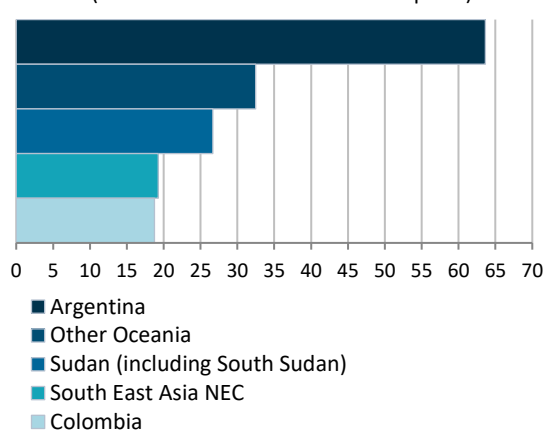


Table 19: Birthplace

	All Catholics	% of Catholics	% recent arrivals ¹
Australia	42,508	74.6	-
New Zealand	1,094	1.9	3.7
Other Oceania	117	0.2	32.5
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	2,938	5.2	1.4
Ireland (including Northern Ireland)	956	1.7	2.2
Italy	1,030	1.8	2.1
Malta	42	0.1	-
Spain and Portugal	80	0.1	3.8
France	115	0.2	9.6
Netherlands	357	0.6	2.8
Germany	454	0.8	4.2
Austria	83	0.1	-
Croatia and other Former Yugoslavia	98	0.2	-
Poland	205	0.4	2.0
Hungary	26	0.0	-
Other Eastern Europe, Russian Federation and Baltic States	77	0.1	-
Other Europe NEC	112	0.2	2.7
Vietnam	184	0.3	14.1
Philippines	3,121	5.5	15.0
Indonesia	90	0.2	11.1
Malaysia	118	0.2	8.5
Singapore	118	0.2	2.5
South East Asia NEC	109	0.2	19.3
India	421	0.7	7.6
Sri Lanka	69	0.1	11.6
China (except Hong Kong and Taiwan)	23	0.0	13.0
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	20	0.0	-
Korea, Republic of (South)	35	0.1	17.1
Egypt	10	0.0	-
Lebanon	28	0.0	10.7
Iraq	-	-	-
Sudan (including South Sudan)	15	0.0	26.7
Middle East and North Africa NEC	60	0.1	13.3
South Africa	456	0.8	3.5
Mauritius	92	0.2	-
United States of America	138	0.2	10.1
Canada	98	0.2	5.1
Argentina	33	0.1	63.6
Brazil	93	0.2	18.3
Colombia	48	0.1	18.8
Chile	38	0.1	-
Central America and South America NEC	104	0.2	2.9
Other countries	393	0.7	3.3
Inadequately described/Not stated	745	1.3	0.4
Total	56,951	100.0	1.6

Notes:

1. % recent arrivals = the percentage of Catholics who were born in the named country and who arrived in Australia between 2018 and 2021 inclusive.

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Language

In 2021, around 22 per cent of Australia's Catholics spoke a language other than English at home, and three per cent were not proficient in English. People who do not speak English well can face practical problems in education, employment and access to services. On the other hand, it is important to many people from a non-English-speaking background to maintain and promote, for reasons of cultural continuity and identity, the use of their home language.¹

What provisions does this diocese make for people who do not speak English well in terms of availability of Masses in languages other than English, interpreters at diocesan events, translation of written material, access to priests and other pastoral ministers who speak their language, and so on?

Is there a need for current services to be reviewed in the light of recent changes to the non-English-speaking Catholic population?

Table 20: Language spoken at home by religious affiliation

	Catholic	Not Catholic (or not stated)	All persons	% Catholics among speakers ²
English	49,762	287,125	336,887	14.8
Italian	1,461	411	1,872	78.0
Maltese	14	-	14	100.0
Spanish	259	392	651	39.8
Croatian	72	45	117	61.5
Polish	218	102	320	68.1
Dutch	101	516	617	16.4
French	211	562	773	27.3
German	218	1,025	1,243	17.5
Portuguese	134	193	327	41.0
Hungarian	27	33	60	45.0
Ukrainian	5	11	16	31.3
Vietnamese	248	319	567	43.7
Filipino languages	2,504	917	3,421	73.2
Chinese languages	93	1,736	1,829	5.1
Malayalam	273	183	456	59.9
Sinhalese	44	162	206	21.4
Korean	48	293	341	14.1
Indonesian & Malay	84	937	1,021	8.2
Arabic	46	253	299	15.4
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	114	806	920	12.4
Australian Indigenous Languages	58	432	490	11.8
Other European languages NEC	165	3,522	3,687	4.5
Other Asian languages NEC	102	3,481	3,583	2.8
Other languages NEC	145	1,376	1,521	9.5
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/Not stated	576	26,686	27,262	2.1
Total	56,982	331,518	388,500	14.7

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. Australian Social Trends 1999. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.11.

2. The percentage of Catholics among the speakers of these languages in Australia.

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Language

Why does the proportion of people not speaking English well vary for different languages spoken at home? Part of the explanation lies in differences in average period of residence of the various language groups. Another factor is 'cultural distance': the more people from a particular culture who share the customs, beliefs and lifestyles with the majority Australian culture, the easier it will be for them to overcome language barriers. A third factor is the size of the language group and the pattern of settlement. The concentration of large numbers of speakers in a region tends to reinforce the use of that language.¹

What are the most commonly spoken languages other than English among the Catholics of this diocese? Are speakers of some languages more likely than others to have difficulty with English? Can you see the influence of the three factors outlined above reflected in the figures on this page?

Table 21: Language spoken at home by age

	0-4	5-11	12-19	20-29	30-39	40-59	60 and over	Total	% who do not speak English well
English	1,850	4,507	5,342	3,404	10,680	11,687	12,289	49,759	-
Italian	14	25	32	47	211	379	751	1,459	7.3
Maltese	-	5	-	-	3	-	8	16	-
Spanish	18	20	22	21	115	45	24	265	3.4
Croatian	-	-	4	4	16	10	40	74	6.5
Polish	10	11	6	-	50	34	95	206	8.8
Dutch	-	-	7	-	18	25	52	102	-
French	10	14	3	8	60	47	60	202	4.7
German	9	18	13	13	55	35	73	216	2.7
Portuguese	6	14	-	8	77	19	9	133	4.5
Hungarian	-	-	-	3	3	-	13	19	-
Ukrainian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vietnamese	17	33	27	37	91	33	3	241	32.8
Filipino languages	95	140	289	322	1,180	388	93	2,507	3.5
Chinese languages	3	6	5	15	33	11	13	86	10.4
Malayalam	37	50	25	13	132	16	6	279	12.4
Sinhalese	4	3	10	5	20	3	-	45	-
Korean	4	4	-	-	25	3	4	40	35.7
Indonesian & Malay	5	9	-	6	30	18	4	72	-
Arabic	5	-	-	4	20	4	6	39	6.3
Assyrian and Chaldean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oceanic and Papuan languages	5	14	15	24	40	10	7	115	2.7
Australian Indigenous Languages	3	12	15	-	17	10	-	57	-
Other European languages NEC	9	9	14	11	57	31	39	170	-
Other Asian languages NEC	3	8	6	17	48	13	12	107	11.0
Other languages NEC	8	12	18	18	63	22	4	145	9.0
Inadequately described/Non-verbal/Not stated	33	51	28	25	82	92	256	567	5.0
Total	2,148	4,965	5,881	4,005	13,126	12,935	13,861	56,921	0.8

Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. Australian Social Trends 1999. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.12-13.

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classified



Attendance at Educational Institutions

According to the 2021 Census, more than 767,800 Australians attended Catholic schools, accounting for almost 21 per cent of all school students in Australia. In 2021, there were 847,500 Catholic students—almost one in six of all Catholics—attending Government, Catholic, and other non-Government schools. A further 326,700 Catholics were involved in some form of post-secondary education. The Church of today, not just of tomorrow, is being shaped by the attitudes, beliefs and lifestyles of these young people.

The pie-chart below shows the language background of all primary and secondary school students in your diocese, both Catholic and non-Catholic, attending Catholic schools. Nationally, around 17 per cent of all students in Catholic schools speak a language other than English at home. The adjacent bar-chart shows the educational participation rate of Catholic males and females in each of the three age groups.

How does the diocese connect with Catholic students at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, especially those not attending Catholic schools?

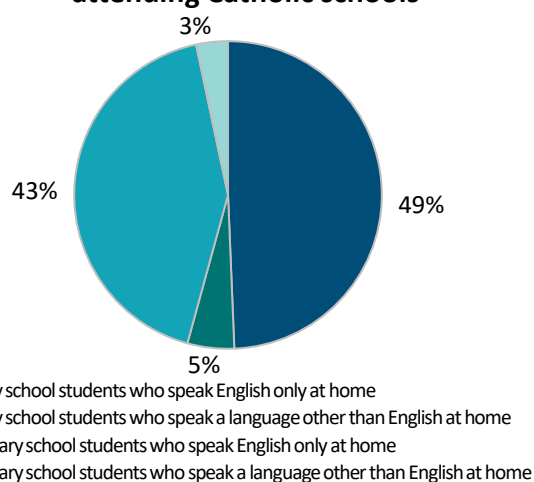
Table 22: Type of educational institution attending by religious affiliation

	Catholic	Not Catholic or not stated	All persons	% Catholic
Infants/Primary – Government	1,819	19,698	21,517	8.5
Infants/Primary – Catholic	2,706	2,416	5,122	52.8
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	308	4,268	4,576	6.7
Secondary – Government	1,785	14,740	16,525	10.8
Secondary – Catholic	2,164	2,150	4,314	50.2
Secondary – Other Non-Government	487	4,396	4,883	10.0
Technical or Further Educational Institution (including TAFE Colleges)	1,182	6,781	7,963	14.8
University or other Tertiary Institutions	1,115	5,466	6,581	16.9
Other (including pre-school)	1,126	7,653	8,779	12.8
Not stated/Not applicable ¹	44,268	263,932	308,200	14.4
Total	56,960	331,500	388,460	14.7

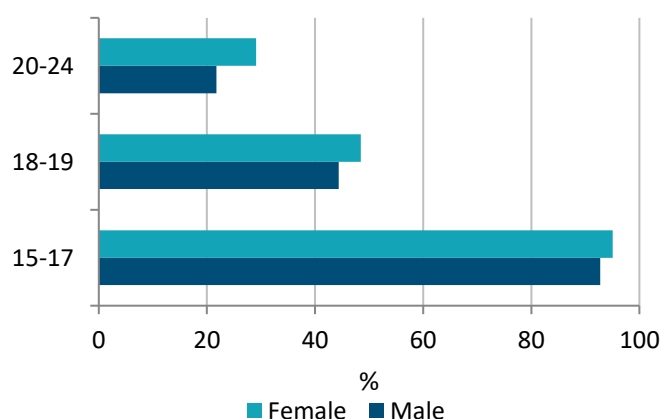
Note:

1. This table includes the total population of the diocese and so there are high numbers for categories where the question about type of educational institutions being attended is not applicable.

Language background of all students attending Catholic schools



Education participation rate (Catholics aged 15-24)



Attendance at Educational Institutions

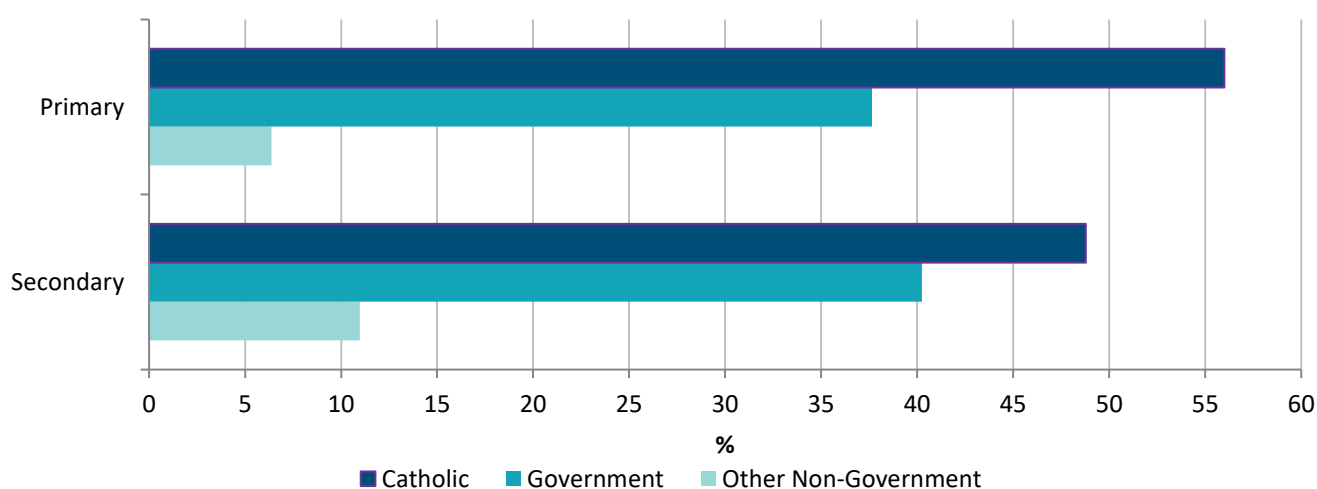
Table 23: Type of educational institution attending by weekly income of student's family¹

	Less than \$500	\$500-\$799	\$800-\$1,249	\$1,250-\$1,999	\$2,000-\$2,999	\$3,000-\$3,999	\$4,000 or more	Total ²	Median annual family income ³ (\$)
Infants/Primary – Government	58	116	169	278	426	229	186	1,736	117,739
Infants/Primary – Catholic	46	62	158	363	717	474	453	2,586	141,151
Infants/Primary – Other Non-Government	6	10	12	26	71	54	70	292	156,011
Secondary – Government	50	111	144	251	419	278	151	1,656	122,431
Secondary – Catholic	32	44	110	217	446	441	466	2,090	159,818
Secondary – Other Non-Government	10	10	14	46	84	88	114	453	167,639
TAFE, University or other Tertiary institution	7	6	25	50	89	70	90	403	188,236
Other (including pre-school)	6	18	18	46	85	43	39	280	128,480
Not stated or not applicable	9	14	19	34	32	22	17	186	101,366
Total	224	391	669	1,311	2,369	1,699	1,586	9,682	137,918

Notes:

1. Because the population of this table is dependent children aged 5-14 and dependent students aged 15-24, the figures in the table refer to individuals, not families. The table shows, for example, the number of Catholic students attending Catholic primary schools whose families have a weekly income in the range \$1,250-\$1,999. A brother and sister at the same school would account for TWO of the cases in this category.
2. A column of figures for "Family income not fully stated, or not stated at all" has been omitted from the table, but the missing figures are included in the Total column.
3. Family income is the sum of the incomes of all family members aged 15 and over.

Type of school being attended by Catholic students



Educational Qualifications

Both the percentage of Catholics with university degrees and the gender balance of Catholics with degrees have changed dramatically in recent decades due to the upsurge in young people, especially women, undertaking tertiary study and the upgrading of courses, such as nursing, to degree status. In 1991, less than seven per cent of Australian Catholics aged 15 or over had a degree; by 2021, that figure had reached 25 per cent. Among Catholics aged 15 to 34 years in 2021, 30 per cent of women had a degree compared to 19 per cent of men. In contrast, among Catholics aged 55 and over, just under 17 per cent of both men and women had degrees.

To what extent has participation in higher education in theology and related fields kept pace in this diocese with participation in higher education in general? What new challenges and opportunities are presented to the diocese as a result of the increase in the number of Catholics with a university education?

The increased level of participation in higher education by women is a reflection of significant changes in women's roles and responsibilities in society.¹ How have women's roles and responsibilities in the diocese changed in the last two decades?

Table 24: Highest qualification attained by age and sex

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+							
Males							
Postgraduate degree	-	39	99	99	95	103	435
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	56	304	463	458	359	428	2,068
Advanced diploma or diploma level	50	136	265	337	373	463	1,624
Certificate level	606	861	1,205	1,383	1,425	1,612	7,092
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	1,956	650	871	1,372	1,739	3,705	10,293
Total	2,668	1,990	2,903	3,649	3,991	6,311	21,512
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>17.2</i>	<i>19.4</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>8.4</i>	<i>11.6</i>
Females							
Postgraduate degree	9	82	142	159	115	64	571
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	135	797	1,154	966	691	672	4,415
Advanced diploma or diploma level	104	310	492	568	590	631	2,695
Certificate level	655	758	1,001	1,086	933	693	5,126
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	1,843	727	948	1,611	2,410	5,499	13,038
Total	2,746	2,674	3,737	4,390	4,739	7,559	25,845
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>32.9</i>	<i>34.7</i>	<i>25.6</i>	<i>17.0</i>	<i>9.7</i>	<i>19.3</i>
All Catholics							
Postgraduate degree	9	121	241	258	210	167	1,006
Graduate diploma / bachelor degree	191	1,101	1,617	1,424	1,050	1,100	6,483
Advanced diploma or diploma level	154	446	757	905	963	1,094	4,319
Certificate level	1,261	1,619	2,206	2,469	2,358	2,305	12,218
Inadequately described, Not stated or Not applicable	3,799	1,377	1,819	2,983	4,149	9,204	23,331
Total	5,414	4,664	6,640	8,039	8,730	13,870	47,357
<i>Per cent with degree or higher</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>26.2</i>	<i>28.0</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>14.4</i>	<i>9.1</i>	<i>15.8</i>

Note:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. *Australian Social Trends 1999*. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.83.



Employment

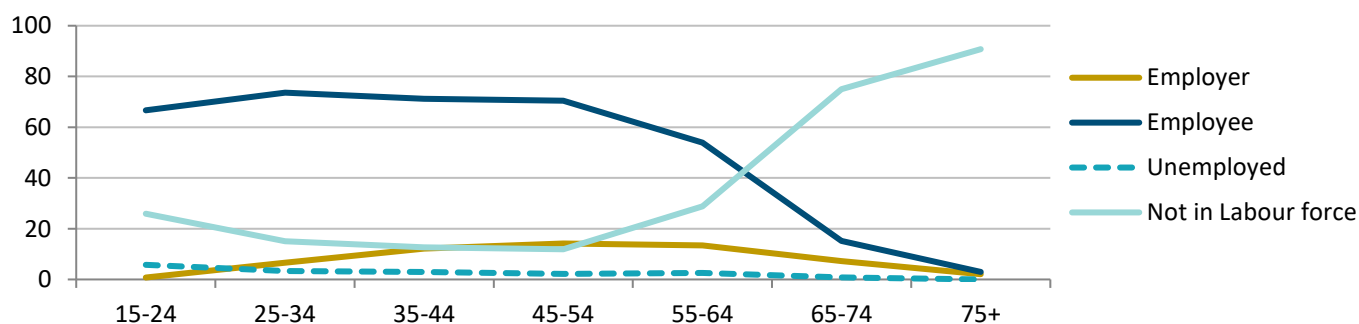
In recent years there have been many changes in society and the workplace that have affected Australian workers. One major change has been the increase in the percentages of workers, especially young people and women, in part-time jobs. Another has been the rise in participation in the labour force by women. A third major change has been the rise in participation in the labour force by older workers, following the removal of incentives to early retirement and resulting in the continuing availability of their skills, experience and maturity in the workplace.¹ Changes in labour force participation also influence the availability and size of the volunteer workforce, and can both reduce and change the pattern of workers' leisure time.

Have any of the changes described above had a noticeable impact on Catholic life in this diocese?

Table 25: Labour force status by age and sex

	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+					
Males					
Employer	32	624	1,413	460	2,529
Employee	1,747	3,643	4,756	747	10,893
Unemployed	153	162	191	45	551
Not in the labour force	702	370	1,159	4,865	7,096
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	36	80	127	183	426
Total	2,670	4,879	7,646	6,300	21,495
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	<i>72.4</i>	<i>90.8</i>	<i>83.2</i>	<i>19.9</i>	<i>65.0</i>
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	<i>7.9</i>	<i>3.7</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>3.9</i>
Females					
Employer	10	478	899	232	1,619
Employee	1,863	4,507	5,618	632	12,620
Unemployed	154	188	202	17	561
Not in the labour force	706	1,169	2,314	6,451	10,640
Other, Not stated, Not applicable	17	63	98	216	394
Total	2,750	6,405	9,131	7,548	25,834
<i>Per cent in labour force²</i>	<i>73.7</i>	<i>80.8</i>	<i>73.6</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>57.3</i>
<i>Per cent unemployed³</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>3.8</i>

Labour force status by age (percentage of all Catholics aged 15+)



Notes:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. *Australian Social Trends 2004. Catalogue No. 4102.0, p.115.*
2. The percentage of Catholics in each age group who are in the labour force (i.e. employed or seeking employment).
3. The percentage of Catholics in each age group who were in the labour force and were unemployed at the time of the Census.



Occupation

Catholic women are more likely to be employed as managers or professionals; 39 per cent of Catholic women and 35 per cent of Catholic men aged 15 and over who reported their occupation in the 2021 Census worked as managers or professionals. But men were much more likely than women—45 per cent compared to 12 per cent—to have a ‘blue collar’ occupation. The largest occupational category for Catholic men in Australia is Technicians and Trades Workers. For women, it is Professionals.

Table 26: Occupation by age and sex

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	Total
Catholics aged 15+							
Males							
Managers	46	190	462	626	588	419	2,331
Professionals	57	177	269	356	340	128	1,327
Technicians & Trade Workers	557	656	792	939	685	177	3,806
Community & Personal Service Workers	133	82	103	128	125	50	621
Clerical & Administrative Workers	31	37	64	85	121	52	390
Sales Workers	288	69	84	111	132	63	747
Machinery Operators & Drivers	139	228	389	593	608	191	2,148
Labourers	502	310	338	367	329	132	1,978
ID / NS / NA ¹	913	255	390	447	1,068	5,090	8,163
Total	2,666	2,004	2,891	3,652	3,996	6,302	21,511
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>21.0</i>	<i>29.2</i>	<i>30.6</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>45.1</i>	<i>27.4</i>
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	<i>68.3</i>	<i>68.3</i>	<i>60.7</i>	<i>59.3</i>	<i>55.4</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>59.4</i>
Females							
Managers	53	173	333	483	368	190	1,600
Professionals	121	540	751	765	521	138	2,836
Technicians & Trade Workers	127	162	196	189	144	39	857
Community & Personal Service Workers	518	384	537	623	545	112	2,719
Clerical & Administrative Workers	174	324	554	755	644	182	2,633
Sales Workers	585	156	248	310	291	88	1,678
Machinery Operators & Drivers	44	47	49	71	72	20	303
Labourers	239	199	309	380	347	90	1,564
ID / NS / NA ¹	893	682	754	816	1,814	6,688	11,647
Total	2,754	2,667	3,731	4,392	4,746	7,547	25,837
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	<i>9.3</i>	<i>35.9</i>	<i>36.4</i>	<i>34.9</i>	<i>30.3</i>	<i>38.2</i>	<i>31.3</i>
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	<i>22.0</i>	<i>20.6</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>17.9</i>	<i>19.2</i>	<i>17.3</i>	<i>19.2</i>
All Catholics							
Managers	99	363	795	1,109	956	609	3,931
Professionals	178	717	1,020	1,121	861	266	4,163
Technicians & Trade Workers	684	818	988	1,128	829	216	4,663
Community & Personal Service Workers	651	466	640	751	670	162	3,340
Clerical & Administrative Workers	205	361	618	840	765	234	3,023
Sales Workers	873	225	332	421	423	151	2,425
Machinery Operators & Drivers	183	275	438	664	680	211	2,451
Labourers	741	509	647	747	676	222	3,542
ID / NS / NA ¹	1,806	937	1,144	1,263	2,882	11,778	19,810
Total	5,420	4,671	6,622	8,044	8,742	13,849	47,348
<i>Per cent Managers & Professionals²</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>28.9</i>	<i>33.1</i>	<i>32.9</i>	<i>31.0</i>	<i>42.3</i>	<i>29.4</i>
<i>Per cent ‘blue collar workers’²</i>	<i>44.5</i>	<i>42.9</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.4</i>	<i>37.3</i>	<i>31.3</i>	<i>38.7</i>

Notes:

1. ID = Inadequately described; NS = Not stated; NA = Not applicable.

2. See Notes 1 and 2 on page 5 for the type of occupations covered by the terms ‘managers and professionals’ and ‘blue collar’.



Occupation

Occupation is one of the many indicators of socioeconomic status.

Does the following table suggest that the socioeconomic status of Catholics in this diocese is different from that of non-Catholics? If there are differences, how might they have arisen?

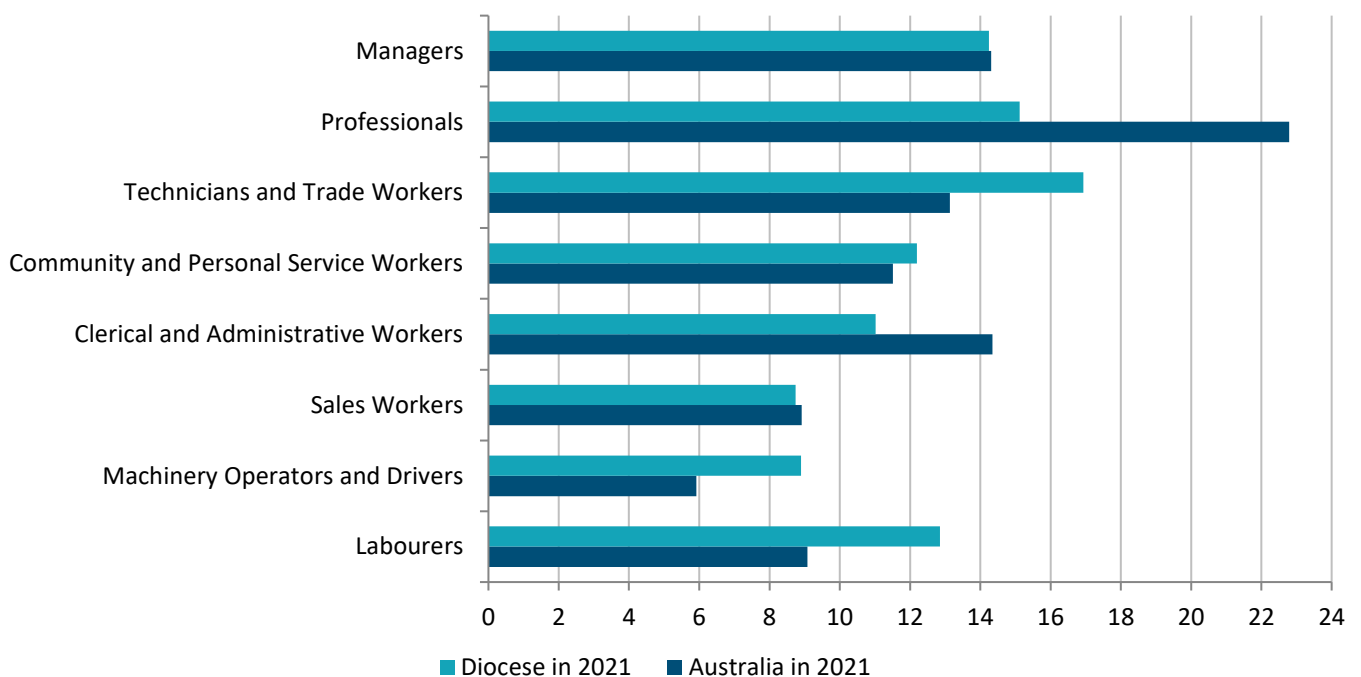
Table 27: Occupation by religious affiliation¹ (%)

	Catholic	Non-Catholic
All persons aged 15+ with an occupation		
Managers	14.2	13.4
Professionals	15.1	14.8
Technicians & Trade Workers	16.9	17.8
Community & Personal Service Workers	12.2	12.1
Clerical & Administrative Workers	11.0	10.2
Sales Workers	8.7	8.4
Machinery Operators & Drivers	8.9	10.1
Labourers	12.9	13.2
Total	100.0	100.0

Note:

1. In this table, 'Not Catholic' includes those who did not answer the question about religious affiliation.

Occupation
(Catholics aged 15+ with an occupation)



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The National Centre for Pastoral Research website allows you to view the Social Profiles online.

Visit the website to obtain:

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- A Social Profile for the Catholic population of Australia
- Helpful hints on using the Census data
- Reports on the National Count of Attendance
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This profile has been created by the staff of the ACBC National Centre for Pastoral Research as part of the National Catholic Census Project 1991-2021.

National Centre for Pastoral Research Staff:

Trudy Dantis (Director), Stephen Reid, Katherine Jelavic, Leith Dudfield, Marilyn Chee and Dragan Lancuski.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
National Centre for Pastoral Research
GPO Box 368 Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: +61 2 6201 9812

Email: ncpr@catholic.org.au

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National Centre for Pastoral Research